GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3589
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2000
MARR SYSTEM IN MAHARASHTRA
CHINTAMAN NAVSHA WANAGA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Multi Access Rural Radio (MARR) System telephones installed by DoT in Maharashtra, particularly in Thane District

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding non-functioning of these systems;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken / proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) MARR system telephones have been installed to provide Village Public Telephones in 18,848 villages in whole of Maharashtra including 576 villages in Thane district.

(b), (c) & (d) Complaints have been received about the unsatisfactory working of MARR systems.The performance of the MARR technology has not been upto the expectations. Government has taken several steps as mentioned below for improvement in service.

(i) Monitoring and Supervision has been stepped up;

(ii) Defective/missing batteries and Solar Panels have been replaced wherever necessary;

(iii) More staff has been trained for repairs of equipment. Workshops have been set up in several circles to repair the faulty equipment. Faulty equipment is also being repaired by the suppliers under Annual Repair Contracts.